SURAH OF AL-ADIYAT

THE RESEARCH:
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AL-ADIYAT

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THE REFERENCES

1) https://quran.com/al-adiyat/info

2) https://quran.com/al-adiyat

THE BACKGROUND 1

Adapted from Tafsir Ibn Ashur

Themes and purpose:

This surah opens with oaths to affirm the profound ingratitude and excessive love of wealth inherent in humankind. Its purpose is to warn the ungrateful of the Day of Judgment, when the contents of the graves will be brought forth and the secrets of the hearts will be revealed and judged.

Context of Revelation:

- Era: The consensus of early scholars (Ibn Masʿūd, Jābir ibn Zayd) considers it Makkan. However, the compelling narrative that it was revealed following a specific raid led by al-Mundhir ibn ʿAmr suggests a Madinan origin, which is also a strong position.

- Context: The reported context is a specific military expedition that went missing for a month, leading the hypocrites to claim the expedition had been annihilated. The surah was revealed to confirm the army's safety and success.

- Chronology: According to the Makkan view, it has been counted as the 14th surah in the order of revelation, revealed after Sūrat al-ʿAṣr and

Name

The surah is known as "Sūrat al-ʿĀdiyāt" (The Chargers) and "Wa-l-ʿĀdiyāt" (By the Chargers), in reference to the opening oath, and also "Sūrat al-Ḍabḥ" (The Panting) from the same ayah. The reference to warhorses is seen as an implicit commendation of the warriors.

Surah Overview:

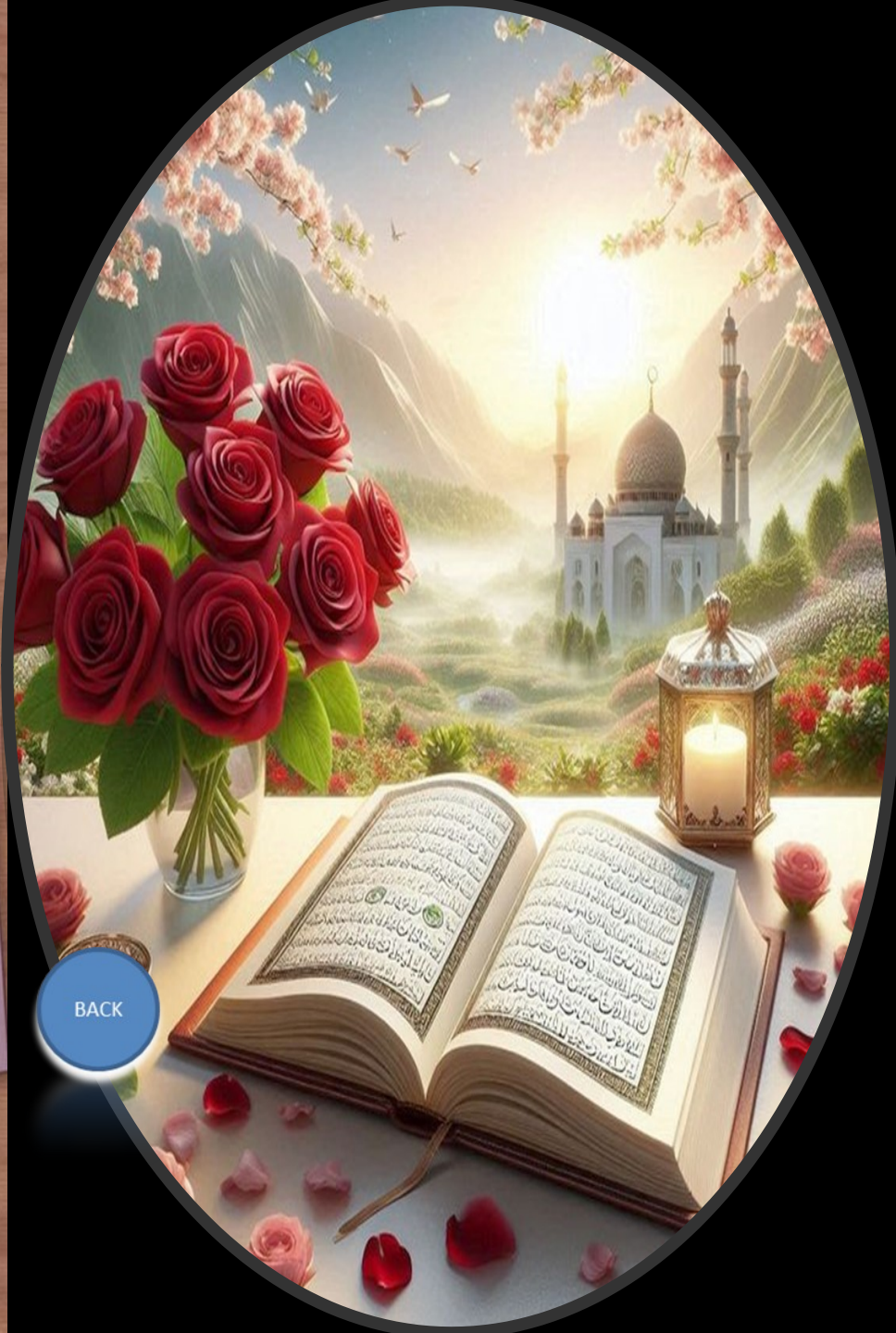
- The Oath: Affirming the truth of the warning by swearing by the power and speed of the warhorses (or the pilgrim's mounts). [1-5]
- Condemning evil traits, specifically ingratitude and excessive love of wealth, which are common to both the polytheists and the hypocrites, and warning Muslims against them. [6, 8]

BACK

- The Final Exposure: Warning that the contents of the graves will be brought forth and the secrets of the hearts will be revealed and judged. [9-10]
- Establishing the absolute certainty of the Judgment and the accountability for all deeds after death. [11]

BACK

THE AYAT IN DETAILS 2



وَٱلْعَٰدِيَٰتِ ضَبْحًا ١

’ By the galloping, panting horses,

BACK

فَٱلۡمُورِيَٰتِ قَدۡحٗا ٢

striking sparks of fire □with their hoofs□,

BACK

وَٱلْعَٰدِيَٰتِ ضَبْحًا ﴿١﴾ فَٱلْمُورِيَٰتِ قَدْحًا ﴿٢﴾ فَٱلْمُغِيرَٰتِ
صُبْحًا ﴿٣﴾ فَأَثَرْنَ بِهِۦ نَقْعًا ﴿٤﴾ فَوَسَطْنَ بِهِۦ جَمْعًا ﴿٥﴾

launching
raids at dawn,

فَأَثَرْنَ بِهِۦ نَقْعًا ٤

stirring up
clouds of
dust,

BACK

فَوَسَطْنَ بِهِۦ جَمْعًا ۝٥

and penetrating into the heart of enemy lines!

إِنَّ ٱلْإِنسَٰنَ لِرَبِّهِۦ لَكَنُودٌ ٦

Surely humankind is ungrateful to their Lord—

BACK

وَإِنَّهُۥ عَلَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ لَشَهِيدٌ ﴿٧﴾

and they
certainly
attest to this—

BACK

إِنَّ ٱلْإِنسَٰنَ لِرَبِّهِۦ لَكَنُودٌ ۝٦ وَإِنَّهُۥ عَلَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ لَشَهِيدٌ ۝٧ وَإِنَّهُۥ لِحُبِّ
ٱلْخَيْرِ لَشَدِيدٌ ۝٨ أَفَلَا يَعْلَمُ إِذَا بُعْثِرَ مَا فِى ٱلْقُبُورِ ۝٩

and they are truly extreme in their love of worldly gains.

أَفَلَا يَعْلَمُ إِذَا بُعْثِرَ مَا فِي الْقُبُورِ ﴿٩﴾

Do they not know that when the contents of the graves will be spilled out,

وَحُصِّلَ مَا فِي ٱلصُّدُورِ ﴿١٠﴾

and the secrets of the hearts will be laid bare—

إِنَّ رَبَّهُم بِهِمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ لَّخَبِيرٌ ﴿١١﴾

surely their Lord is All-Aware of them on that Day.

EXCERCISES

BACK

1. Remembering (Recall)

1) What does the word "Al-'Adiyat" mean?
2) By what creatures does Allah swear at the beginning of the surah?
3) What actions of the horses are mentioned in the first five verses?

1. Remembering (Recall)

4) What characteristic of human beings is mentioned in verse 6?

5) What does the surah say about man's attitude toward wealth?

6) What event is described in verses 9–11?

7) Who is fully aware of everything people do?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1) Why does Allah begin the surah by swearing by the charging horses?
2) How do the descriptions of the horses show their strength and loyalty?
3) What does the surah teach about human gratitude toward Allah?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

4) Why is excessive love of wealth dangerous?

5) What is the connection between the first part of the surah and the last part?

6) What does the surah teach about the Day of Judgment?

3. Applying

1) How can a Muslim show gratitude to Allah in daily life?
2) What can you do to avoid becoming too attached to wealth?
3) How can the loyalty and dedication of the horses inspire a believer?
4) How should belief in the Resurrection affect a person's behavior?
5) What actions can help a person prepare for the Day when secrets are revealed?

4. Analyzing

1) Compare the loyalty of the horses with the ingratitude of some human beings. What contrast does the surah present?
2) Why do you think the surah first describes a dramatic scene of charging horses before discussing human behavior?
3) How do verses 1–5 build excitement and movement in the reader's mind?

4. Analyzing

4) What evidence does the surah provide that humans are strongly attached to wealth?

5) How do the final verses support the central message of accountability?

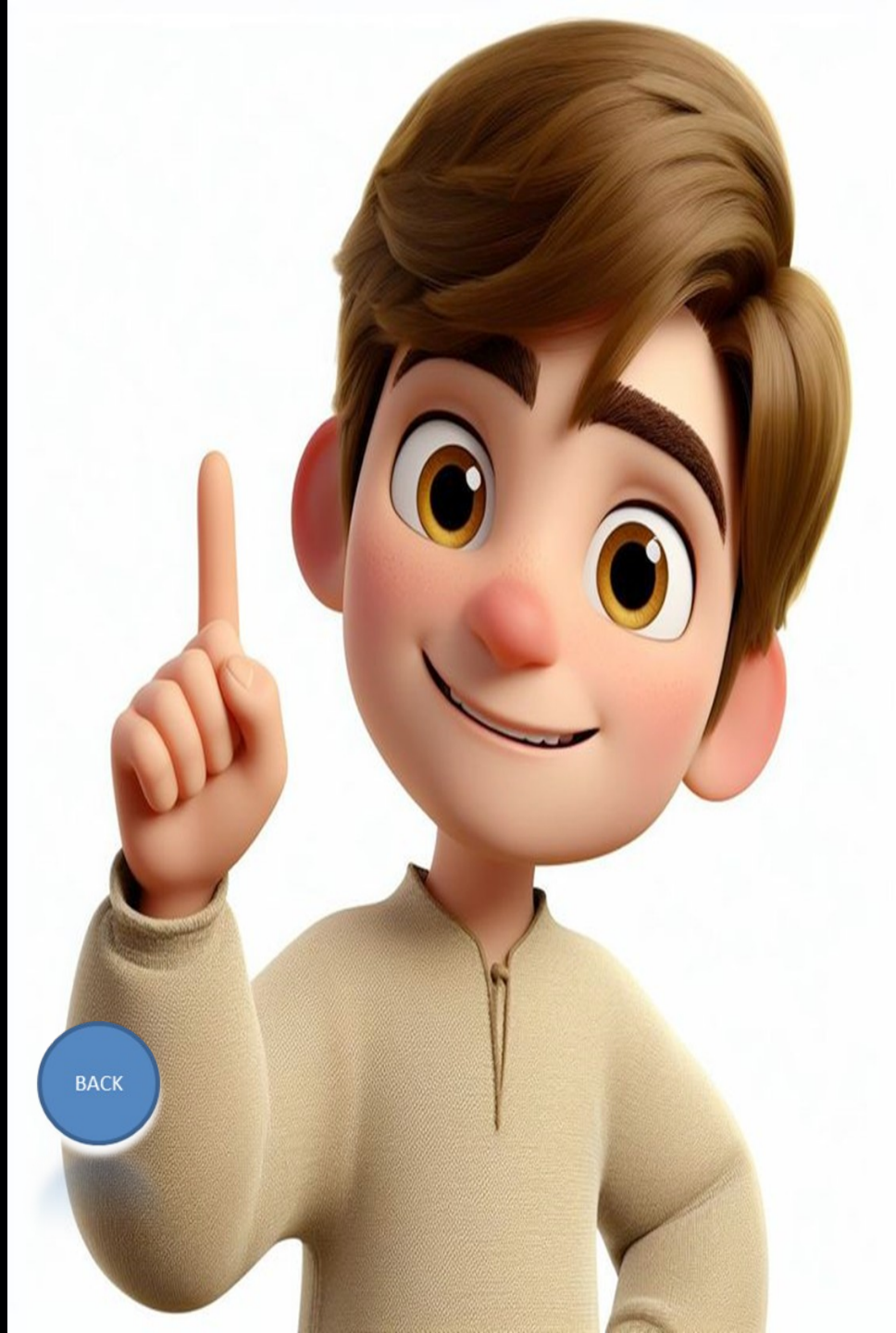
6) What relationship can you find between gratitude, wealth, and accountability in this surah?

5. Evaluating

1) Why is gratitude considered one of the most important qualities of a believer?
2) Which message of the surah do you think is most relevant to people today? Why?
3) How successful is wealth in bringing lasting happiness according to the teachings of Islam?
4) Why is remembering the Day of Judgment an effective way to correct human behavior?
5) Do you think people today face the same problem of excessive love of wealth mentioned in the surah? Explain.

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1) Create a short speech explaining the main lessons of Surah Al-'Adiyat to younger students.
2) Design a poster showing the connection between gratitude to Allah and success in the Hereafter.
3) Write a modern-life example that reflects the warning against excessive love of wealth.



6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1) Create a mind map linking the themes of:
   Gratitude
   Wealth
   Accountability
   Resurrection
2) Write three practical goals inspired by Surah Al-'Adiyat that a Muslim can apply this week.
3) Compose a reflection titled: "What Will Be Revealed on the Day When Graves Are Emptied?"

Higher-Order Reflection Questions

1) Why might a horse show greater loyalty to its owner than a human shows to Allah?
2) What would society be like if people valued gratitude more than wealth?
3) How does belief that Allah knows what is hidden in hearts affect a person's choices?
4) If all people's inner intentions were revealed today, how might behavior change?
5) What is the most important lesson you personally learn from Surah Al-'Adiyat, and why?

و الحمد لله رب العالمين